

Ageing and Social Change

Master's Programme, 120 credits

Ageing and Social Change

Do you want to contribute to the sustainability of an ageing society and the well-being of an ageing population? Then this is your master's programme.

Population ageing and rising inequalities are marked trends around the world, while globalisation, digitalisation, urbanisation, migration and changing gender relations are having profound effects on our lives. A longer living population presents global challenges and opportunities that affect every aspect of our lives such as welfare, the environment, health, finance, housing, and employment. Gaining a profound understanding of the potentials and challenges of ageing, is crucial for the well-being of mankind and the sustainability of society. Skilled experts to tackle the global social, economic, health, political and cultural issues of ageing will be needed to support public agencies, civil society and private corporations in addressing the challenges of an ageing population.

Longevity, policies and social change

The interdependencies between policies, welfare institutions, populations' dynamics and individual lives are at the heart of this programme. It offers a broad curriculum in policy-oriented ageing research and addresses several policy areas such as the welfare state, life-course policies, pensions, health and care, family, and intergenerational relations. Teachers from a range of academic backgrounds will enable you to acquire a globally attractive and unique education. Together we will seek answers to the complex questions facing society today with regards to both individual and population ageing. As a student on the new Ageing

and Social Change master's programme, you will gain a broad understanding of the relationships between longevity and social change through a truly interdisciplinary perspective, combining up-to-date research and methodology.

On-campus or distance learning

The approach taken during the programme emphasises interactive teaching and communication, based on a hybrid model of digital learning that includes both classroom teaching and distance learning. You can choose either on-campus learning or distance learning with on-campus periods of instruction.

One-year or two year-option

The programme is offered as a one-year, 60 credits, and as a two year-option, 120 credits.

Generate social impact

Regardless of whether you are about to start a career or to further develop your professional expertise, the programme will offer you the ability to generate social impact. You will be well-prepared for a professional career in either the public or the private sector, and for further studies and research at PhD level and beyond. The Ageing and Social Change master's programme will lead you, and your fellow students, to become the next generation of managers, advisors, decision-makers, experts, and researchers.



The programme runs over two years and encompasses 120 credits, including a thesis

In the first and second semester, students will follow mandatory courses that contain an historical and theoretical introduction of the ageing societies. Moreover, the course content provides insight into policy-oriented ageing research and introduce students to data and methods for policy oriented social science research on Ageing and Social Change. The courses inform about increasing economic inequality and accelerated population ageing as key features of contemporary societies between regional and global perspectives by looking into intersections between gender, social class and ethnicity. Students that decide to take the one-year option, devote the second half of the second semester to the composition of the master's thesis and participation in regular colloquium meetings.

In the third semester, the programme leads to individual specialisation through studies abroad, internships, intensive research and reading courses as well as elective courses on an advanced level in the field of ageing, policy analysis.

The fourth semester is devoted to the composition of the master's thesis and to the participation in regular thesis colloquium meetings. The master's thesis regularly involves a small-scale research study. In addition to their thesis and course work, students will follow a schedule of thematic seminars.





On-campus or distance learning

You can choose either on-campus learning or distance learning with on-campus periods each year.

On-campus – place of study: Norrköping
 Linköping University's Campus Norrköping is one of Sweden's most beautiful campus areas. It is centrally located in the historic Industrial Landscape, the town's old industrial precinct alongside the Motala River. Old buildings have been filled with new contents, and the waterway adds a special atmosphere to the area. There are about 5000 students here who study everything from healthcare and communication to teaching and engineering programmes. There is a close-knit atmosphere on campus and the different programmes doesn't put up any friendship boundaries. It is close to the city's fantastic cultural and entertainment life, but at the same time also to water and green areas.

Distance – place of study: On-line with on-campus periods of instruction

It is primarily taught online with the aid of a digital learning platform, but there are on-campus periods of instruction.

The on-campus periods of instruction for our distance learning students are the following:

YEAR 1	
Semester 1	Semester 2
<p>Two (2) on-campus periods.</p> <p>The first one is a 4-5 days long on-campus period in the beginning of the semester and a 4-5 days long on-campus period in the middle of the semester.</p>	<p>Two (2) on-campus periods.</p> <p>The first one is a 4-5 days long on-campus period in the beginning of the semester and a 4-5 days long on-campus period at the end of the semester.</p>
YEAR 2	
Semester 3	Semester 4
<p>No on-campus periods.</p>	<p>Two (2) on-campus periods.</p> <p>The first one is a 2-3 days long on-campus period in the beginning of the semester and a 2-3 days long on-campus period at the end of the semester.</p>

The Ageing and Social Change research environment

The Ageing and Social Change research environment conducts leading-edge research on key social, political and cultural issues of ageing. While providing basic and advanced academic training within these fields, the environment also contributes to the proliferation of knowledge about ageing within society.

Research on Ageing and Social Change aims at integrating analyses of changing societies in Sweden and Europe with the study of individual ageing processes within the theoretical framework of life-course research.

Issues of ageing and social change are conceptualised and analysed in terms of structural and institutional shifts (life-course policies, labour markets, welfare and legal systems, social inequality, integration and exclusion), in terms of changes in work, social networks, everyday life and health of older people (employment, life-long learning, retirement transitions, health behaviours, ageing with morbidities and disabilities, support needs and care systems) and regarding new societal and technological frameworks of ageing.

Staff from sociology, (social) psychology, gerontology, economy, methodology, communication sciences, journalism, anthropology, social policy and other disciplines are operating in the framework of the environment.



An internationalised research environment

Ageing and Social Change is a genuinely internationalised and well-integrated research environment.

Research is largely conducted in collaboration within international networks. The majority of the staff are internationally recruited.

Moreover, the Research Environment Ageing and Social Change is involved in national and international training and co-supervision of PhD researchers within a H2020 Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Action to encourage transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility.

Ageing and Social Change is supported by an advisory group of European and national experts, and project advisory groups add to these advice capacities.



More information:
liu.se/age